MISHRA): (a) and (b) No Sir. No representations from States or the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh have been received.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Indo-Dutch Project

5807. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received an Indo-Dutch project worth crores of rupees proposed to be set-up in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh after clearance from the Ministry of Environment and National River Conservation Department; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) A project for pollution abatement of river Ganga at Kanpur under the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II at an estimated cost of Rs. 105 crore has been posed for assistance to the Government of Netherlands. The project has not been sanctioned by the Government of Netherlands so far.

Check on Foreign Intelligence

5808. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propse to take any steps to check or monitor the activities of the Pak intelligence agency pertaining to its direct or indirect involvement in the internal matters of the country during the Indo-Pak talks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) During the recent talks with Pakistan, Government of India have expressed serious concern at the terrorism and proxy war instigated by Pakistan. These views will be reiterated as and when necessary.

Residential Facilities for Hamalis

5809. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided Rs. 5 crore for building the Residential facilities for Hamalis;

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred by now;

(c) the States which have taken advantage of this scheme; and

(d) the number of Hamalis who got residential facility under this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The Ministry of Welfare is not aware of any scheme for the welfare of Hamalis.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Bogus Shankracharyas

5810. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Desh Mein 60 Naqli Shankracharya" appearing in *Dainik Jagaran* dated March 12, 1997;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is being looked into.

Thefts of Idols

5811. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of theft of idols from the temples are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any initiative has been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) According to information available, there were 280 cases/incidents of theft of antiques/idols during the year 1995. The number of such cases/incidents durign the year 1996 was 349. However, the number of idols stolen during